AMENDMENT

In the Claims:

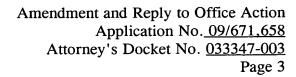
Please cancel claims 15 and 25-27 without prejudice or disclaimer to Applicant's filing one or more continuation or divisional applications directed to the canceled subject matter.

Please amend claims 10, 12, 14, and 16-23 so that after the amendments, the following claims are pending in this application:

- 1. (Amended) An isolated antibody, or antigen binding fragment thereof, that specifically binds to a 499E9 polypeptide having the amino acid sequence as shown in SEQ ID NO: 2.
- 2. (Amended) The antibody, or antigen binding fragment of claim 1, wherein the antibody is polyclonal.
- 3. (Amended) The antibody, or antigen binding fragment of claim 1, wherein the antibody is monoclonal.
- 6. (Amended) The antibody, or antigen binding fragment of claim 1, wherein the antibody is a 499E9 antagonist.
- 7. (Amended) The antibody, or antigen binding fragment of claim 6, wherein the antigen binding fragment is a F(ab')₂, Fab, or F_v fragment.
- 8. The antibody of claim 1, wherein the antibody binds to a 499E9 polypeptide with a K_d of at least about $30\mu M$.







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9. The antibody of claim 1, wherein the antibody binds to a 499E9 polypeptide with a K_d of at least about $10\mu M$.

- 10.8 (Twice amended) The antibody of claim 1, or antigen binding fragment thereof, that is raised against a polypeptide selected from the group consisting of:
 - a) a substantially pure or recombinant 499E9 polypeptide exhibiting 100% sequence identity over a length of at least 12 contiguous amino acids to SEQ ID NO: 2;
 - b) a natural sequence 499E9 of SEQ ID NO:2; and
 - c) a fusion protein comprising 499E9 sequence.

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11. The antibody of claim 1, wherein the antibody binds to a 499E9 polypeptide with a K_d of at least about 3 μ M.

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(Amended) An isolated antibody, or antigen binding fragment thereof, that specifically binds to a polypeptide having the amino acid sequence as shown in SEQ ID NO: 2, wherein the antibody or antigen binding fragment is conjugated to a detectable label.

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- 13. The antibody, or antigen binding fragment of claim 12, wherein the detectable label is an enzyme, a fluorescent label, or radioisotope.
- (Amended) An isolated antibody, or antigen binding fragment thereof, that binds to the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:2.
- (Amended) The antibody or antigen binding fragment of claim 10, wherein the antibody is polyclonal.

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- (Amended) The antibody or antigen binding fragment of claim 18, wherein the antibody is monoclonal.
- (Amended) The antibody or antigen binding fragment of claim 10, wherein the antibody is a 499E9 antagonist.
- (Amended) The antibody, or antigen binding fragment of claim 10, wherein the antigen binding fragment is a F(ab')₂, Fab, or F_v fragment.
- E 20. (Amended) The antibody or antigen binding fragment of claim 10, wherein the antibody or fragment binds to the polypeptide with a K_d of at least about 30 μ M.
- (Amended) The antibody or antigen binding fragment of claim 10^{18} , wherein the antibody or fragment binds to the polypeptide with a K_d of at least about $10 \mu M$.
 - (Amended) The antibody, or antigen binding fragment of claim 10^{10} , wherein the antibody or fragment binds to the polypeptide with a K_d of at least about 3 μ M.
 - (Amended) An isolated antibody, or antigen binding fragment thereof, that specifically binds to a 499E9 polypeptide having the amino acid sequence as shown in SEQ ID NO: 2, wherein the antibody is raised against a polypeptide selected from the group consisting of:
 - a) a substantially pure or recombinant 499E9 polypeptide exhibiting 100% sequence identity over a length of at least 12 contiguous amino acids to SEQ ID NO: 2;
 - b) a natural sequence 499E9 of SEQ ID NO:2; and
 - c) a fusion protein comprising 499E9 sequence; wherein the antibody or antigen binding fragment is conjugated to a detectable label.

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24. The antibody, or antigen binding fragment of claim 23, wherein the detectable label is an enzyme, a fluorescent label, or radioisotope.

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.121(c)(1)(ii), a marked-up copy of the amended claims is attached herewith on separate pages.